October 6, 2009

FAS INSTRUCTIONAL LETTER 2009-07

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL FAS ACQUISITION ACTIVITIES

(QV DISTRIBUTION LIST)

FROM:

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT (QV)

SUBJECT: The Applicability of Taiwan as a new Trade Agreements Act (TAA)

designated country to the Federal Supply Schedules (FSS)

Program

1. <u>Purpose</u>. The purpose of this IL is to provide guidance on the applicability of Taiwan as a newly added designated country under the TAA to the FSS Program.

- 2. Background. This interim Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) rule adds Taiwan to the list of World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement countries in FAR 22.1503, 25.003, 52.222-19, 52.225-5, 52.225-11, and 52.225-23.
- 3. Effective Date. Date of signature.
- 4. <u>Termination Date</u>. This IL expires one year from the effective date unless cancelled, extended, or incorporated into a handbook.
- 5. <u>Applicability</u>. This IL applies to all U.S. General Services Administration/Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) and Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) acquisition activities awarding and administering FSS contracts.
- 6. Reference to Regulations. This IL references FAR Case 2009-014, New Designated Country--Taiwan, published on August 11, 2009 at Federal Register, Vol. 74, No 153, page 40461, which added Taiwan as a designated country and prescribes the inclusion of the amended FAR clause 52.225-5 Trade Agreements (prescription at FAR 25.1101(c)(1)) in all FSS solicitations and contracts. In addition, this IL supplements FAS Procurement Information Notice (PIN) 06-7, "Trade Agreement Act Reminders" and Procurement Information Bulletin (PIB) 05-5 "Trade Agreements" and the GSA Schedules Program FAR Part 25.
- 7. Instructions/Procedures.
 - A. Submittal of Offers and Modification Requests to Add Taiwanese Designated Products and/or Services.

Effective August 11, 2009, FSS contractors may submit offers and/or modification requests to their Schedule Contracting Officer (CO) to add Taiwanese products and/or

services to their FSS contract(s). Schedule COs may award FSS contracts and/or award modification requests for these items. When awarding a new FSS contract or a modification request to a current contract for Taiwanese items, and the solicitation has not been refreshed and/or modified to include FAR 52.225-5, Trade Agreements (AUG 2009), amend the offer/proposed modification prior to contract/modification award to include the latest version of this clause.

B. Inclusion of updated FAR clauses in the next solicitation refresh and subsequent modification:

Refresh all FSS solicitations and modify all FSS contracts at the time of the next scheduled refresh to incorporate the following updated required clauses:

- FAR 52.225-5, Trade Agreements (AUG 2009). This clause is incorporated by reference in FAR 52.212-5, Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders-Commercial Items (AUG 2009) (Alternate II - MAY 2009). In order for FAR clause 52.225-5 to be effective Contracting Officers must affirmatively check the applicable box in FAR 52.212-5. NOTE: The basic clause and Alternate I do NOT apply to Schedule contracts.
- FAR 52. 222-19, Child Labor—Cooperation with Authorities and Remedies (AUG 2009). This clause is incorporated by reference in FAR 52.212-5, Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders-Commercial Items (AUG 2009) (Alternate II - MAY 2009). In order for FAR clause 52.222-19 to be effective, Contracting Officers must affirmatively check the applicable box in 52.212-5. NOTE: The basic clause and Alternate I do NOT apply to Schedule contracts.